

EMS Local Projects Grant applications available soon

Does your EMS organization need financial assistance to purchase equipment, non-expendable supplies or other pre-hospital health care necessities? Apply for a Local Projects Grant (LPG). This grant program supports and improves the development of the Texas Emergency Health Care System and increases the availability and quality of emergency prehospital health care. Approximately \$1 million dollars will be available for fiscal year 2009 grants.

DSHS expects the next Local Projects Grant request for proposal (RFP) to be available in March. The RFP posted this spring is the document you will use to request funds available in fiscal year 2009, which begins September 1, 2008. Please note that if you are awarded funds from this grant, items cannot be purchased until you have entered into a contract with the state and can only be spent during that contract period.

Who is eligible for LPG funds? Department-licensed EMS providers, department registered first responder organizations, Regional EMS/Trauma Advisory Councils (RACs), EMS education organizations, and prehospital injury prevention organizations may be eligible to receive funds.



CareFlite received a Local Projects Grant in 2007. Photo by Watson Kohankie.

What types of projects are funded through LPG?

In the past, we have awarded funds for EMS personnel certification training, specialty training related to pre-hospital health care management, communication equipment, patient care equipment, including ambulances and non-disposable supplies, injury-prevention projects and continuing education programs.

Check our website this

spring for the open RFP announcement: www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems. We will make an announcement on the EMS listserver, as well as mail postcard announcements to licensed EMS providers and registered First Responder Organizations. Also see our LPG webpage for more answers to your questions about LPG: www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems/LPGfunding.shtm.

Do you know what to do?

As we have seen, there are those who want to harm Americans on our own soil. Do you know what to do if you see suspicious activity in your area? The Texas Homeland Security Office wants to make sure you do. If you see any suspicious activity that might lead to a potential threat to the nation's security, contact law enforcement officials immediately. If the potential threat is confirmed by the Texas Homeland Security Office, log onto your computer. The Office of EMS/Trauma Systems Coordination will post any potential threats to our website and to the EMS and trauma systems listservers.